

HAGALIL

HAMAARVI

ISSUE #7

ISRAEL ISREAL

JANUARY 21, 1988

HAGALIL HAMAARVI is a postal Diplomacy* zine published by Ran Ben-Israel, R.R.#2, 571 Sunnidale Rd., Barrie, Ontario, Canada L4M 4S4. My telephone number is 705-726-5478, please call only between 1900-2200 hrs. The zine features articles with a Judaic theme and is published approximately every five weeks. Letters to the editor are most welcome. In addition to REGULAR and GUNBOAT games, I hope to run a LORD OF THE RINGS variant.

FEES: 10 issues for \$7 Cnd./ \$6 U.S., single issues are 75¢.
\$3 for game starts.

GAME OPENINGS:	"HANITA"	Regular Diplomacy,	two needed.
	"ADAMIT"	Regular Diplomacy.	five needed..
	"SHLOMI"	Lord of the Rings, (Downfall VII)	four needed?

STANDBYS: PLEASE sign up, as standbys are most needed and are rewarded.

*Diplomacy was invented by Allan B. Calhamer and copyright by the Avalon Hill Game Co.

Shalom Everyone,

I am back safe and sound from a short but wonderful vacation in Greece and South Africa, much to the surprise of a couple of friends and relatives who figured that Anza and I weren't going to return. The thought did cross our minds and who knows maybe (hopefully?) in another couple of years we will go back to stay. Before anyone asks, yes I did put on a couple (at least 5) kilos. But more on the trip later.

Terrorist living in Brantford, has been the headline news in Ontario these last few days. Convicted Palestinian terrorist Mahmoud Muhammad Issa Mohammad has been living in Brantford (which is in southern Ontario) for almost a year. Mohammad was convicted in 1970 of killing an Israeli during an assault on an El Al jet in Athens back in 1968. He was sentenced to 17 years in prison but was released by the Greeks a year later in a prisoner exchange.

He received landed immigrant status from Canadian officials in Madrid in January 1987. Of course he lied on his application form about his criminal record. Mohammad slipped through security when he arrived in Canada although he was tracked by the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (our secret service). The CSIS has maintained surveillance on Mohammad since last Feb.

Do not ask me why it has taken a year for the federal authorities to prepare a deportation case against Mohammad. To me it seems too much of a coincidence that his deportation hearing is the week after the news stories hit the headlines. What is even funnier is that the CSIS claims that Mohammad is of no threat to Canadians and that they still have him under surveillance even though he has gone into hiding.

To keep the comedy act going our Federal Minister of State for Immigration, Gerry Weiner, goes on National News and states that it would be nice if Mohammad would find a way out of Canada on his own rather than go through with the hearings that are scheduled for next Monday. Here we have an open and shut case against an illegal immigrant and the government would rather not get involved, talk about avoiding responsibility.

One of the excuses for not handling this case, is if we deport Mohammad who will take him. Israel, the one country that will willingly take him is out of the question because the government is afraid of reprisals by his fellow terrorists on Canadians living abroad. Even if the will is found to deport Mohammad it may never happen. According to one lawyer, Mohammad can appeal the decision and then reappeal it and then if all else fails, he can try to claim refugee status.

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YIDDISH PROVERB #147; Ainer iz a ligen, tsvai iz ligens, drei iz politik.
(One lie is a lie, two are lies, but three is politics!)

CAN-CON '88

I'll bet a lot of you out there were wondering what had happened with all of this advanced publicity for Can-Con '88 last fall - and then silence for months on end. Well, we had to wait until the New Year for the '88 price structure to be fixed, so Doug and I took a gander at the facilities last week.

Glendon College is located atop a beautifully preserved ravine at Bayview and Lawrence Aves. It is about a ten minute bus ride from the Subway (Lawrence Stn.) from which Downtown is about another thirty minutes. The Subway will connect you with the rest of the city and the cash fares of \$1.05 (about \$0.85 US) are good for one trip of any length. There are no Blue Jay games that particular weekend, but if you're making a holiday of it, Milwaukee hits town on the 19 with Chicago following on the 22. The Canadian National Exhibition starts on the 17, so Blue Jay tickets won at Can-Con will get you in to see both (the stadium's at the Exhibition grounds).

Doug will be putting together a "Widow's" package to keep the better half happy during your stay, there are plenty of things to see and do besides Diplomacy. If you're so inclined, Glendon's ravine will connect you with both hiking and cycling trails that meander throughout the city. But enough about Toronto! How about you?

Accommodation costs for Friday and Saturday nights are: \$25 single, \$18.50 double occupancy (tax included) / day.

A full-service cafeteria is located next door to the "Theatre of Battle" - three meals would total approx. \$20

PRE-REGIST.

THE GAMING SESSIONS WILL BE

AT THE DOOR

\$15
for the
weekend

Friday 1800-2400
Saturday 0800-1400
Saturday 1800-2400
Sunday 0800-1400

\$6
p e r
session

All of the figure quoted above are in Canadian dollars. (Americans, you should look at getting about \$1.25 for your Yankee buck.)

I'm sure, however, that if you were to send Doug a cheque now for \$15, he'd guarantee that price for you (wouldn't you Doug?)

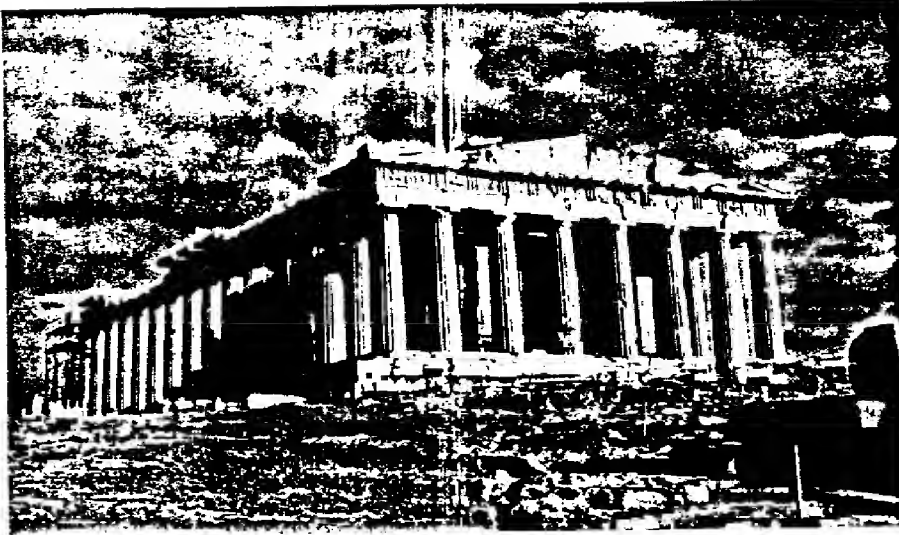
Anyways, to make sure you're on our mailing list, write to:

Doug Acheson,
95 Dundonald St.,
Barrie, Ont.,
L4M 3T4
(705) 726-9362.

Your other hosts are:
Ran Ben-Israel, RR 2, 571 Sunnidale Rd.
Barrie, Ontario - (705) 726-5478 and
Frank Easton, 2-73 Keele St., Toronto
M6P 2J8 (416) 769-7346.

AUGUST 12-14

TORONTO CANADA



The Trip

Our holiday was fantastic, visiting family, seeing new places and plenty of good weather.

We made it to Greece okay, but only after a hectic bus ride from La Guardia Airport to Kennedy, through rush-hour traffic all the time wondering if we will make our flight. We should not have wasted our time worrying, we arrived twenty-five

minutes before the flight was to take-off and nearly forty minutes before the flight crew boarded the aircraft. Not once did Olympic Airways take-off on time but their crew were very friendly and hospitable.

We didn't see too much of Athens since jet-lag accounted for a large part of the forty-eight hours that we had. However we did manage to take in the must sites. Did you know the Acropolis was more or less intact until just over a century ago. A war between the Turks and the Venetians did most of the damage and an earthquake did the rest. Pollution nowadays is also taking its toll.

The flight to South Africa was uneventful, though I did get to see Woody Allen's movie "Radio Days". Adjusting to driving on the wrong side of the road wasn't too difficult, my major problem was trying to get use to the mirrors. I never did get the hang of looking up to the left to see into the rear view mirror. Another difference that took awhile to get use to, was the one hundred and twenty kilometer (seventy-five miles per hour) speed limit.

After two weeks of doing the rounds of visiting relatives, Anza and I took her dad's "bakkie" (a small Toyota pickup truck with a canopy) and headed south for a week. We left in the evening and drove all night and through the next morning until we hit a town called Oudtshoorn. We visited the Kango Caves which are South Africa's largest limestone caves. There is a hall in the caves that is so large that concerts are sometimes held in it. From here we went to a small game reserve. What made this park memorable were the tame Cheetahs. I am still kicking myself that I didn't get a picture of myself petting the two cheetahs.

Next we went to a crocodile farm. This was one of the high-lights of the whole trip. On the farm is the oldest croc in SA, I forget his size but he is eighty years old. We were told that in Australia is one that is ninety and ten metres long (nearly thirty-three feet). Did you that there is no limit to the size a croc could grow. Also that a croc is the only animal if

born in captivity and then released into the wild, will hunt immediately. I could go on and on about all of things I learnt on crocodiles but I don't want to bore you. I will however add that a croc makes an alligator seem like a pussycat.

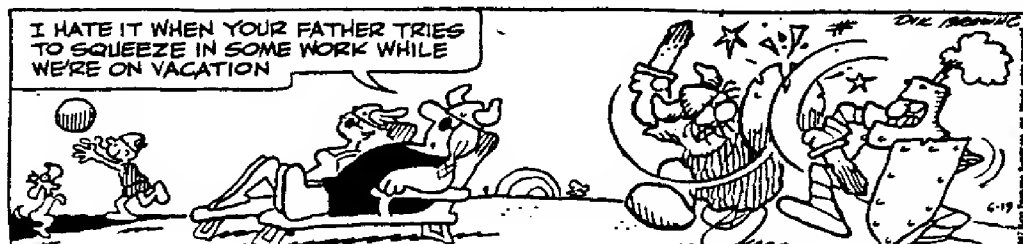
I got to swim in the Indian Ocean for the first time. The South African beaches are unbelievable. I could've easily spent my whole vacation on one of them. But alas it was not to be. Next stop Cape Town. Actually next stop was back to Oudtshoorn to visit an ostrich farm. I didn't get to ride an ostrich but I did manage to sit on one. One day I am going to try to make scrambled eggs with an ostrich egg, which is equivalent to twenty-six chicken eggs.



Yes, we, I did finally make it to Cape Town. It turned out to be Anza's first trip to there also. And yes Cape Town is just as beautiful as I was led to believe. I believe it or not even took the cable car to the top of Table Mountain. The picture up above is proof for all of doubters who know I am afraid of heights (no one ever liked going to Masada with me because I would insist on walking up and down the mountain). In case you can't quite see, those are my hands I circled, I was sitting on the floor shaking like a leaf being terrified out of my wits. Once on top of the mountain it took the better part of an hour for me to calm down.

While in Cape Town we stayed with one of Anza's friends from her nursing college days. Of course while we were there we went on a tour of some of the local vineyards. I still can't stomach red wines. Our visit also happened to coincide with a lobster derby, which was sponsored by a local wine company. The way I figure it, each one of us must of drank at least a bottle and a half of this very tasty semi-sweet white wine. This day will stand-out for not just for all the wine I drank but also because of the coloured couple that we spent the day with. **Between a couple of drinks** we managed to talk a little on politics and what has been happening in South Africa. If only I could bring them over to Canada to talk with anti-apartheid groups and set them straight on a few issues. Now I am diversing, anyway I am out of room so you will have to wait until the next issue for more on the trip.

hagar the horrible



LETTER COLUMN

Rob Lowes

Thanks for sending the sample of your zine. It looks great. I find the Judaic content interesting as I know very little about the Jewish faith except for what I've seen in "Yentl" and "Fiddler On The Roof".

((Thanks for the compliment on the zine. A pat on the back is always appreciated. Would you believe that I have not seen either movie. I came close to seeing "Fiddler On The Roof" once but the evening that it was showing on the kibbutz I was stuck doing guard duty.))

Dave Anderson

Did you have fun in Greece? ((You bet ~~we~~ did.)) It's a lot warmer in Greece than in Michigan. ((It was but it was even warmer in South Africa. They are in the midst of their summer now. The last week we had temperatures in the 35-40 C (95-104 F) range. What a shock it was to come back to week long temperatures of -20 to -35 C (-4 to -31 F).))

Gary Coughlan

I hope you enjoyed your vacation. You mentioned South Africa and a tan. Did you swim at any of the beaches there. I know that they(supposedly) like Australia have some sort of mesh nets which keep sharks out and that sharks are said to be fairly prevalent in those waters. Do you know anything about this or how these nets work. I've even heard that some ~~sp~~ swim beyond the nets!

I guess that's all for now....how about another quiz!?!?

((We sure did enjoy ourselves but it was too short. Another month would have been good. We did do a little swimming on the south coast of Cape Province. Sharks are not a problem in that area like they are off the beaches of Natal. There they do have shark nets and from what I hear, sharks still occasionally make it pass the nets. Sorry but I have no idea how the nets work. I guess for now....you have to wait until issue #9 for the next quiz. I am glad you are enjoying them.))

Brent McKee

I hope that the Air Canada strike didn't interfere too much with your holiday. ((We flew Olympic Airways so the strike did not affect us at all))

I have always been fascinated with South Africa, as my Great-grandfather served with the British Army there during the Boer War. He also served with the Canadian Army during World War I. It makes you think about what Frost referred to as the road not taken.

((I hope my wife misses the above. Her family fought against the British in the Boer War and some ill feeling still lingers on even until today.))

On Kurt Waldheim: According to an article in the Sunday Express (London) there is increasing evidence of the allegations against him, notably the testimony of one of Waldheim's former commanding officers, Lt Col Herbert Warnstorff, and his aide Helmut Poliza. "Both testified that, despite claims to the contrary, Waldheim's unit was responsible for sending thousands of Jews to the death camps." (Sunday Express, Dec 6, 1987) As to why none of this came out before, perhaps the explanation is that no one looked for it. After all, until fairly recent revelations, the West believed that it had rooted most of the old Nazis out of German and Austrian society at the end of the war.

((I have two questions. One, if Lt Col Warnstorff was a former commanding officer of Waldheim, doesn't that mean that Waldheim's unit was also his unit and therefore he is confessing to be a war criminal himself? Two, why didn't this officer and aide speak up years ago, like back when Waldheim was running to be the Secretary General of the UN.

Brent, Gary wants to know where you got your quote from, that was in the last issue. The quote was, "The law defined as Jewish anyone professing the Jewish faith or who had at least one-fourth of Jewish blood in his viens.))

Gary Coughlan

Now for the Nuremberg Law topic you raised when you answered my letter in HH. I've done some digging and it is quite interesting. The Ergang book I mentioned to you last time is correct. It is not a biased history as you seemed to imply and as this new book I will quote from should show.

The book is called Documents On Nazism 1919-1945 by Jeremy Noakes and Geoffrey Pridham. In the chapter entitled Antisemitism, 1933-45, it states on page 465, referring to the Reich Citizenship Law, September 15, 1935:

"A major outstanding problem was that of the definition of a 'Jew'. Since the beginning of 1935 the matter had been discussed by Party leaders, who pressed for the application of legislation to all half-Jews. The Nuremberg Laws, drafted by civil servants, failed to provide a clear answer (Hitler had struck out the term "full Jews" from the draft of the Citizenship Law as it involved a new classification). Dr. Bernhard Lösener, a high official in the Reich Ministry of the Interior who had assisted in the drafting of the Nuremberg Laws, produced a memorandum on 1 November which discussed the position of half-Jews. Lösener proposed the inclusion of those half-Jews who were married to a Jewish person and who adhered to the Jewish religion. (The choice of religion for want of a better alternative was inconsistent with Nazi ideology which saw the Jew as a racial rather than a religious being). Lösener's suggestions were included in the first regulation under the Citizenship Law, issued on 14 November 1935."

Here are the pertinent articles:

Article 1: Until further regulations regarding citizenship papers are issued, all subjects of German or kindred blood, who possessed the right to vote in the Reichstag elections at the time of the Citizenship Law came into effect, shall for the time being possess the rights of Reich citizens.....

Article 2: (1) The regulations in Article 1 are also valid for Reich subjects of mixed Jewish blood.

(2) An individual of mixed Jewish blood is one who is descended from one or two grandparents who were racially full Jews, in so far as he or she does not count as a Jew according to Article 5, paragraph 2. One grandparent shall be considered full-blooded if he or she belonged to the Jewish religious community.

Article 5: (1) A Jew is anyone who is descended from at least three grandparents who are racially full Jews. Article 2, para. 2, second sentence will apply.

(2) A Jew is also one who is descended from two full Jewish parents, if (a) he belonged to the Jewish religious community at the time this law was issued, or joined the community later, (b) he was married to a Jewish person, at the time the law was issued, or married one subsequently, (c) he is the offspring of a marriage with a Jew, in the sense of Section 1, which was contracted after the Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honour became effective, (d) he is the offspring of an extramarital relationship with a Jew, according to Section 1, and will be born out of wedlock after 31 July 1936.

Another book I found in the library, A History of Modern Germany 1840-1945, by Hago Holborn, pp 759-760:

"Everybody having three Jewish grandparents was to be considered a Jew, though subsequently the Nazi persecution was directed also at people with fewer Jewish ancestors."

Like you, I was surprised at when I first read this. It is so hard to believe that this period of history actually existed--but this is why we must remember it so nothing like it happens again.

((I am going to have to get to the library and do some research. Until then I am still inclined to agree with Brent, like him my knowledge comes from my old history text so who knows maybe the Canadian History textbooks are in error.

You are so right about remembering the Holocaust, we must let nothing like it ever happen again. To show how short people's memories are, take a look at the newspaper clipping, below, that Brent sent me.))

THE SUNDAY EXPRESS December 6 1987

SUNDAY DIARY by Lady Olga Maitland



Lord Young

But Hitler slept here

LORD YOUNG of Graffham, Secretary of State for Employment, and his wife Lita recently checked into a hotel which had been highly recommended to them in the German town of Bayreuth, where they planned to attend the arts festival.

The smartly dressed

manageress escorted them up the stairs to show them a suitable bedroom. On the way, by way of conversation, she said with great pride: "Hitler spent six weeks in this room. You should like it." This news was not music to their ears. Lord Young, former chairman of the International Council of

Jewish and Social Welfare Services, glanced at his wife.

There was no more to be said. They announced simply that they had changed their minds about the booking.

They then marched smartly out of the hotel, and drove swiftly away.

Throwing stones

Of course the situation in the Gaza Strip and West Bank is a bloody mess! No one pretends otherwise.

But what's truly sickening is the way outsiders are falling all over themselves to condemn Israel.

Why they've even gone so far as to compare the tiny Jewish state to Nazi Germany, a comparison that manages to be odious, absurd and insulting.

After all, Israel exists against all odds to be the only functioning democracy in the Middle East. There have been tragic overreactions by its soldiers but let's not forget, as incredible as it may seem, that those rock-throwing Palestinians have more rights under Israeli rule than they would get in most Arab countries.

Then there's proof that Israel is uncomfortable with how it's run the occupied territories. Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir says that once Israel restores order, it will propose negotiations to establish Palestinian self-rule.

So we caution against overreaction by the world since some liberal protests seem tinged with anti-Semitism.

Israelis built this land over 40 years while being outnumbered 40 to one by neighbors bent on obliterating them. Even "moderate" Palestinians pray for that.

When Israel troops quell riots in the occupied lands, they're not pushing, as Hitler did, for more living space. They're fighting for their nation's life, for survival.

Thus the TV show of that snotty junior minister from Britain scolding an Israeli officer for being beastly to the Arabs makes our blood boil.

Of all the stereotyped silly-ass Englishmen! What indeed would be *his* reaction if Israel sent a politician to Ireland and he denounced Britain? This twit would be furious at the impertinence. His mind is locked in a vanished era when Britain held sway in the Mideast.

Still the world must mourn with the families of the victims even as it should have no sympathy for the fanatics dedicated to Israel's destruction.

These riots are cleverly orchestrated, using youths who have grown up in the Gaza slums who don't care that their existence was determined as much by Arab as Jew.

But they only throw rocks, you say. Sure, but rocks can kill. Just ask Goliath.

in Gaza and the West Bank deteriorate even further before it gets any better.

I've had a couple of friends ask me, why Israel deployed the army to quell the protests and not riot squads or the police? Why is live ammunition being used and not any other means? I have even heard one or two state, that Israel has become as fascist as the Nazis. For a friend to make the last statement, was upsetting and hurt me very much. How can anyone equate Jews with Nazis. To do so, is to make a mockery of the memory of all the Jews who died in the Holocaust.

My Webster dictionary defines fascism as; a system of government characterized by dictatorship, belligerent nationalism and racism, glorification of war etc.. First of all Israel is a democracy, in a lot of ways too democratic and and in some, more democratic than a Republic State like the United States. The second point I will partly concede to, belligerent nationalism does exist in Israel but it is not the norm, at least not yet. Now for racism, I guess if

Israel has figured prominently in the news during the past six weeks and usually not too favourably. The government's handling of the unrest in Gaza and the West Bank has brought down severe criticism upon Israel, from both friend and foe alike.

I clipped the article on the left, out of the Toronto Star, last week because it was one of the few reports or editorials that I've recently seen that was not one-sided. Even though the columnist over-dramatized a bit (and why not since most do so against Israel), I totally agree with him. I don't condone the deaths that have happened but I do know that the situation isn't as black and white, as the U.N. and the reporters would like to make it out to be. Israel is in a no-win position when it comes to the Palestinians and the Israelis know it. Unfortunately for both sides, now that the death toll has risen to 36, we will probably see the situation

you supported or believed in the UN resolution, Zionism is racism, then Israel is a racist state in your eyes. I however disagree. I honestly believe that there is more racism in Canada (I haven't lived in the States to be able to make a judgement), than in Israel. Finally we have the glorification of war. This definately does not exist in Israel or in the attitudes of Israelis. In Israel virtually every family has had a relative or close friend killed or wounded in one of the wars. As someone who served in the Israeli Army and did two tours of duty in Lebanon, I can unequivocally state that Israelis abhor war.

Why the army and not the police? The reason being one of manpower. The Israeli Police Force is not that large. There isn't even enough policemen to properly patrol the roads and highways. It has only been in the last couple of years that the manpower and budget has been scrapped together to form a small traffic division, even though the carnage on the roads each year is far worse than all the acts of terrorism since the creation of the state. A friend of mine^{who} is a policeman in Jerusalem, once told me that he spends about half of his time on anti-terrorism duty. As you can see there just is no way the police could handle the unrest in the occupied territories, that leaves the army to do the job.

The army doesn't train any of its men for riot duty for two reasons. The first, is one of economics, there isn't the money to do so. Believe it or not I ended up becoming a medic only because the artillery course I was to be on was cancelled due to the lack of funds. An Israeli soldier spends about half of three year service training in one way or another. Which would mean every year or so the army would have to start from scratch in training riot squads. Which brings me to the second reason, the will does not exist in the army. A soldier is trained to defend his country or to put it bluntly to kill. Israel could conceivably be attacked at any time. The army is to be prepared to stop that attack when and if it ever comes. Therefore no military units can be spared for non-military duties. A soldier cannot be trained as a policeman and still keep his military effectiveness.

Now the hardest question, why bullets. Since I was not there to witness the events, I can only surmise. The army did not just go in shooting, I am positive that other means were used. Live ammunition would have only been resorted to to protect lives. From the training I received, I think I can safely say that for a soldier to fire his weapon at an "unarmed" civilian, his unit had a couple of casualties and he feared for their and/or his life. Our self-defense laws are no different. If someone was coming at you with a baseball bat and threatening to bash in your skull, you have the right to protect yourself. If you honestly believed that your life was in danger and you happened to be armed, you can shoot in self-defense.

Remember that there are two sides to every story and that the media usually only gives one, the most sensational one.

The results of Quiz #2 are in. Drum roll please. Envelope. And we have a new title-holder, Brent McKee. Brent racked up a perfect score of 10 to foil Gary's attempt in defending his title. My congratulations to Brent and the other six participants, Dave Anderson, Mike McCormack, Tom Margarites, Gary Coughlan and Melinda Holley.

The Answers

- 1) There were five Marx brothers, not four. (Gummo left the act before they went into movies.)
DA 0, JB 0, GC 1, MH 0, TM 0, MM 0, BM 1
- 2) For witch of the Three Stooges were brothers there are two correct answers, Moe & Curly and when Curly died he was replaced by another brother, Shemp.
DA 0, JB 0, GC 1, MH 0, TM 0, MM 0, BM 1
- 3) Asa Yoelson's more famous name is Al Jolson.
DA 1, JB 1, GC 1, MH 1, MM 1, BM 1
- 4) The better known name of comedian and filmmaker Allen Konigsberg is Woody Allen.
DA 1, GC 1, MH 0, MM 0, BM 1
- 5) Samuel Goldwyn's original last name was Goldfish.
DA 0, JB 0, GC 1, MH 1, TM 0, MM 0, BM 1
- 6) It is true that both Mr. Spock and Captain Kirk were played by Jewish actors.
DA 0, JB 0, GC 0, MH 1, TM 0, MM 0, BM 1
- 7) Of the four roles that were listed, Rhoda was the one not played by a Jew.
DA 0, JB 0, GC 1, MH 0, TM 0, MM 0, BM 1
- 8) The Jewish TV game-show host who originally wanted to go to medical school in Canada is Monty Hall.
DA 0, JB 1, GC 1, MH 0, MM 1, BM 1
- 9) Milton Berle started his performing career with his mother.
DA 1, JB 1, GC 1, MH 1, TM 0, MM 1, BM 1
- 10) The two famous Hollywood personalities whom Dr. Nussbaum converted to Judaism are Sammy Davis Jr. and Elizabeth Taylor.
DA ½, GC ½, MH 1, MM ½, BM 1

The total scores are DA 3½, JB 3, GC 8½, MH 5, TM 0, MM 3½, BM 10

Now for the handing out of free issues. Brent, you have three issues being added on to your sub balance. Gary and Melinda, you've both picked up one issue for scoring 50% or better.

As per tradition I will now list my answers; 4, Larry & Moe, Al Jolson, ?, Goldberg, true, Columbo, Monty Hall, his mother, Sammy Davis Jr. & ?, for a grand total of 4½. Pretty bad huh.

I hope everyone is enjoying the quizzes and possibly learning from them, as much as I am.

THE FOLLOWING SPORTS COMMENTARY IS BROUGHT TO YOU COURTESY OF YOUR ESTEEMED PUBLISHER RAN

The Toronto Maple Leafs have finally dropped to their rightful position in the National Hockey League, second from the bottom. They have now gone twelve games without a win and winless in 1988. Unfortunately since the Minnesota North Stars are almost as bad as the Leafs, we will most likely see Toronto once again fluke their way into a playoff spot, come spring. And friends want to know why I think the playoffs are boring.

The Super Bowl is once more upon us and both of my early picks have fallen by the wayside. Chicago at the hands of Washington and Cleveland losing a heartbreaker to Denver. Due to their fine defensive showing against the Vikings, I am picking the Redskins to win.

SADIEH-HAKRAV

1987HI

"MATZUVA"

Spring 1902

TURKEY DOES A TURTLE ACT WHILE AUSTRIA GIVES RUSSIA A HELPING HAND. GERMAN ARMIES MOVE EAST AGAINST RUSSIA AND SWEDEN FALLS TO ENGLAND.

AUSTRIA-Milewski f alb-tri, a vie s f alb-tri, a bud s RUS a ukr-rum,
a ser s RUS f bla-bul(ec)
 ENGLAND-McKee f nwy-swe, f lon-eng, f nth s f lon-eng, f lvp-iri,
a bel-pic
 FRANCE-Gestiehr f iri-eng, a por-spa, a pic holds
 GERMANY-Holley f hol-kie, a kie-mun, a mun-sil, a den s ENG f nwy-swe,
a ber-bru
 ITALY-Easton f gre-alb, f nap-tch, a tyr-tri, a ven s a tyr-tri
 RUSSIA-Williams f sev holds, f bla-bul(ec), a ukr-rum, f gob-bal,
a swe holds (retreats to fin or otb)
 TURKEY-Christie f con s a bul, f ank s a arm, a arm h, a bul s IT f gre
 (otm)

DEADLINE for Fall 1902 moves is Wednesday, February 24, 1988.

Remember that moves can be made conditional on Russia's retreat. I would like to thank Gale Wetmore for submitting standby orders. One issue has been added on to your subscription. Would anyone care to be added to the standby list ?

PRESS:

RUS-GER: You have less to be alarmed at than me.

RanBam-RUS: You can say that again.

RUS-FRA: Somebody had better come to life over there or it's 'au revoir' 'til next game.

ENG-ITA: The Czar is right you know (for the first time in his life). It doesn't hurt to initiate correspondence, and as soon as I have something to say to you, you can rest assured that I will personally initiate correspondence. Or not as the case may be.

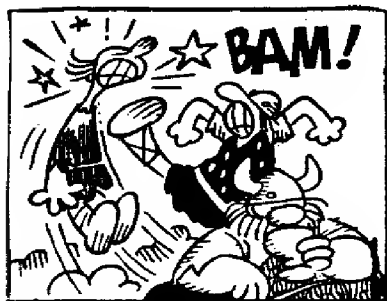
RUS-ITA: Did you say we had a treaty? An understanding? Non mi ricordo.

RUS-TUR: Hoping that you and Austria are not in cahoots!

RanBam-RUS: If they are, they have a funny way of showing it.

ENG-SWE: I'd invite you to move your government in exile, or at least your exiled Czar to summer in Blackpool, however the hotels there are having some difficulty sorting out a sudden spate of cancelled reservations. The clerks can't read French very well.

CROSS CHANNEIER (in the London Express): Rumours in Admiralty circles has the Fleet setting sail into the Channel. Our French neighbours have nothing to worry about. It seems that the Admiral in charge is a keen amateur landscape painter and has always wanted to paint the White Cliffs of Dover from the sea.



1987Xrb32

"BEN-ANI"

Summer/Fall 04

TURKEY IS CAUGHT NAPPING, LOSES A HOME CENTER TO BOTH AUSTRIA AND RUSSIA BUT MANAGES TO STAY EVEN. ITALY FAILS TO RETAKE VENICE AND MUST REMOVE ONE.

Summer 1902

ITALY retreats a ven-pie

Fall 1902

AUSTRIA f ven holds, a vie-tyr, a tri-ser, a bul-con

ENGLAND f lvp-iri, f eng s f lvp-iri, f nth-bel, a nwy s GER f swe

FRANCE f pic-bre, f mao-por, a spa-mar, a gas-mar

GERMANY f swe h, f hol-bel, a bur-gas, a kie-ber, a ruh-bur, a mun s

IT a tyr

ITALY f lon-adr, f tun-lon, a pie-ven, a tyr s a pie-ven

RUSSIA f stp(sc) h, f rum-bla, a sil-war, a arm-smy, a ukr-sev

TURKEY NMR! f aeg h, f bla h, a gre h, a sev h

Supply Center Chart for Winter 1902

| | | | |
|---------|---|---------|--|
| AUSTRIA | 6 | build 2 | vie, tri, bud, ser, <u>VEN</u> , <u>CON</u> |
| ENGLAND | 4 | even | lon, lvp, edi, nwy |
| FRANCE | 5 | build 1 | bre, par, mar, spa, <u>POR</u> |
| GERMANY | 7 | build 1 | kie, ber, mun, bel, hol, den, <u>SWE</u> |
| ITALY | 3 | lose 1 | ven , rom, nap, tun |
| RUSSIA | 5 | even | stp, war, mos, sev , rum, <u>SMY</u> |
| TURKEY | 4 | even | gre , ank, bul , <u>GRE</u> , <u>sev</u> |

Will _____ please standby for Turkey.

DEADLINE for Winter '02 builds/removals and Spring '03 moves is

Wednesday, February 24, 1988

Remember that the Spring moves can be made conditional on the Winter builds and removals. Also note that it takes THREE requests for a seperation of seasons.

PRESS:

PORTUGAL: The olive pickers have arrived!??

NEWS ITEM: The Prime Minister of Italy has condemned Austria of wanton destruction of civilian homes, murder of innocent women & children during the deliberate naval bombardment of Venice. Such an act can only be construed as **the work** of the devil himself. A Holy War is hereby declared to cleanse the Austrian land of evil. Meanwhile the Pope ~~still~~ busy with talks with the Sultan, did manage to take time out to make a statement to reporters about the recent atrocities. Quote, "This is a most unfortunate event to have transpired and it is hoped that Austria will make the proper compensation to the Italian people."

RUS-ITA: What can be said? Good luck in resolving your differences with the Austrian Emperor.

RanBam: I do believe that a little bit more than luck is needed now.

RUS-ENG: I'm sure you see the futility in a "northern" campaign - you've got other concerns. Peace be with you brother.

GER-ENG: Cousin, where'd you go? We've work to do. I hope that the open German supply centres weren't too tempting?

RanBam: It looks like they were. If you can't trust your cousin who can you trust.

ITA-GER: See Austria, wink, wink, nudge, nudge.

GER-ITA: It appears a little support is necessary before we discuss aggression and defense, as we don't want you to retreat into Munich if we left.

BER-VIE: I think it would be better to ask the forces stationed in Munich to council the Pasta Occupation Forces. Does this mean that you'll support such action in 1903? Say the spring?

VIE-BER: Seeing as though we both have our hands full, I suggest we embark on a mutual defense pact. I don't think it would be beneficial to fight each other, when there are so many pigeons out there for the picking.

RUS-FRA: I appreciate your invitation, my heart is certainly with you.

RUS-GER: I hope my little excursion into Silesia does not cause you alarm, purely defensive old boy!

GER-RUS: The ~~Fuhrer~~ Fuhrer, after reviewing the behavioural scientific research findings in the Burgandy area, addressed the problem of the Russian presence on our Eastern borders, with the following observation; "If that posturing groveler even thinks of sliding like slum into Berlin, we have more scientists more than willing to correct that behavioural abhorrence."

VIE-MOS: I read the press on you and I am not convince of your innocence or of you being slimy scum. A good way to show your good intentions would be by moving out of Silesia before Western Europe puts you into a whole new world of hurt. In the meantime, how can we divide Turkey?

RUS-AUS: I appreciate your willingness to help out in the struggle against the Turk, particularly when you are involved in a struggle of your own. I hope my actions will not cost you an anxious moment, and that you will be able to benefit from his boldness.

RUS-TUR: It is apparent that everyone sees through the rhetoric of your press. It appears that Austria already has a build this winter, courtesy of the Khan!

RanBam: How about the generosity of the Tsar, in giving away Sevastopol.

VIE-CON: Okay pal, pick your poison.

ITA-TUR: The Prime Minister has high hopes that Turkey will help Italy crush the Austrian threat to our homelands.

RanBam: It would appear as if the talks with the Pope put the Khan to sleep.

VIE-ROM: By the looks of it, we've had a communication problem. Please reply in this medium as to how we can resolve this problem. The Emperor wishes to live in peaceful harmony with his northern & western neighbours.

RanBam: I think the Emperor should reread the first press release.

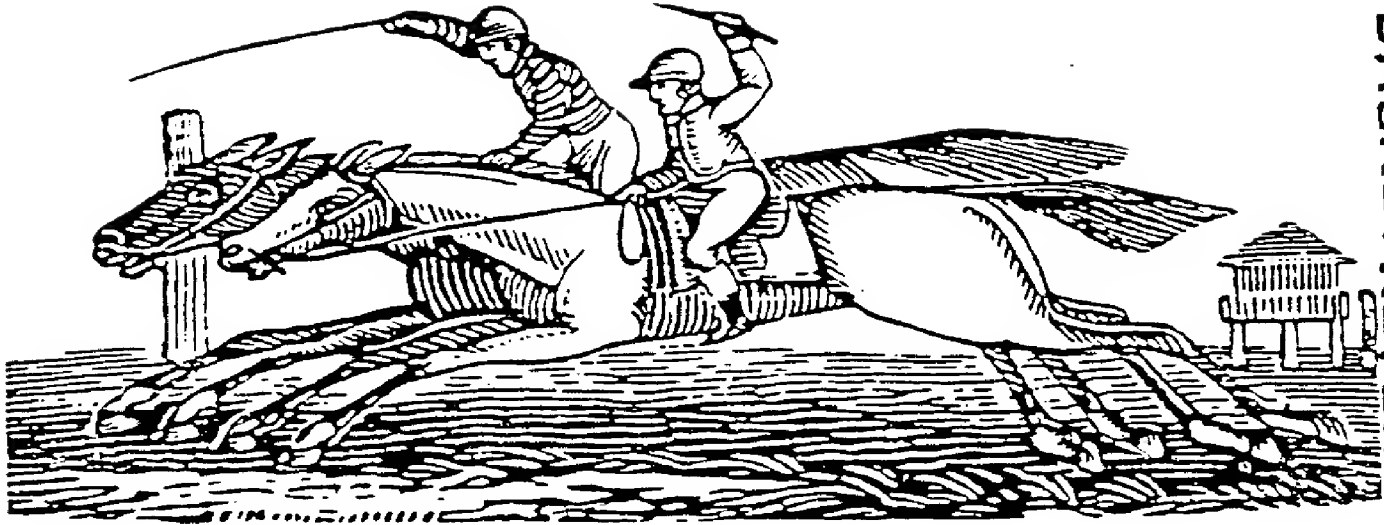
BUR-SWITZ W.H.O.: After intensive physical and intellectual testing of certain numbers of the inhabitants of this area, it is with confidence that the 'Slimy Scum' so pursued by this scientific venture, cannot possibly exist in such a backward populous of peasant vintners. The German 1st Armoured Div. will press on to a coastal region at the request of the eminent German behavioural scientists who wish to continue their experimentations.

RED CROSS, SWITZ-GER: We cannot agree with the methods of, or the presence of the German army in a foreign, sovereign state. We, hereby, formally request that you withdraw all armed forces from the French territories. Also, a Red Cross team wishes to observe any experimentation that has taken place, as there have been raised pointed questions about possible crimes against humanity.

ST PETERSBERG: The Tzar announced his pleasure and gratitude with the governments of Christian Europe who appeared to be willing to grant Russia the time it would need to deal with the 'dogs-of-a Turk' who were, at this very moment, defiling the streets of Sevastopol. He thanked the Kaiser for allowing his Polish forces to maneuver this spring in Silesia, he was sure the experience would put them in good stead for the upcoming struggle. When confronted with some of the direct quotes that the Sultan had been heard to mumble over the last few months, he could only chuckle. He was more than confident that Christian Europe saw the Turk for what he was : a power-crazed individual who saw intent on the age-old "struggle" of imposing the ways of Mohamed upon the rest of the world. A wily foe, but one who was doomed to failure because of the Russian peoples' resolve. The heinous crimes of the Turkish past will not be forgotten, nor forgiven.

= = = = =
YIDDISH PROVERB #948;

Vi me bet zich ois, azoi darf men shlofen.
(As you make your bed, so will you sleep in it.)



BACKSTRETCH

#7

DOUGLAS WM ACHESON aka WILLIAMS - 95 Dundonald St., Barrie, Ont., CANADA L4M 3T4

Statement of claim

'Diplomacy' was invented by Allen B. Calhamer and copyrighted by Avalon Hill Game Co.

Statement of disclaim

'Backstretch' is thrown together by myself and dedicated to the quest of self-fulfillment through selfless indulgence of allowing those of you to do likewise in the pursuit of the ethic of the 80's, 'Winning is everything'. Backstretch is the cogency of evidence that compels acceptance by the mind of the fact that bs like this is embraced by all Diplomacy players and not only found at the end of some farmer's barn in a steaming pile.



THE TRACK

THEY'RE AT THE POST! THEY'RE OFF!!

It's a regular Colonia VI game breaking fast on the inside with a gunboat Colonia VI game breaking right with her. Her? Yes, her. Check the names.

The overnight entry sheet looks this way.

- **Regular Diplomacy**
Race #1 signed up: Grigsby, Holley, Easton, McMaster, McSherry, Oaklyn
- **Gunboat Diplomacy**
Race #1 signed up: five - two needed
- **Colonia VI** (nine player world map variant)
Race #1 1988 Agh Winter 1750 "Allez France"
Race #2 signed up: Hyatt, Prosznitz, Russell
- **Colonia VI Gunboat**
Race #1 1988 Bgh Winter 1750 "Battlefield"
Race #2 signed up: three - six needed

I find it very interesting that I have some players that play gunboat dip & gunboat variants exclusively and others that want to play just reg. dip.

This edition of BACKSTRETCH is dedicated this time and ONLY this time to those two upstarts publishing NORTHERN FLAME, which by the way, was named after another racehorse. I think I prefer NORTHERN FLASH, my first choice, for their attempt at beating this!!
McKee, your contribution will be in the next issue, OK? OK. Also, the 3-man demonstration game of Colonia VI is postponed if not dropped altogether, lack of time to pull it together. Did you catch that Mark?? I'm not blaming you.

RAIL SITTING: Recently, I'd put out feelers for the position of CDO president which at the moment is vacant. Having no idea what the CDO is, let alone it's responsibilities, it looked like the ideal target for exploitation/takeover. Feedback from the feelers sent out was nonexistent (maybe due to December holiday shutdown of Canada Post) so I ploughed ahead. That is I ploughed ahead until the following letter arrived. Pleased to share it with you.

Dear Doug: First off, I finally figured out what your "How much is too much" retort referred to. Yeah, I did write that, but totally forgot the phrase. End of topic.

Regarding CDO, you can run for Prez if you want to, but it's rather pointless. CDO by definition & the CDO presidency have no power or recognition value. CDO was formed in response to the collapse of the International Diplomacy Association (IDA) & the inefficiency & lack of recognition of Canada by it's successor -IDA (North America).

Robert Correll, Dave Ronson & John Leeder formed CDO to be strictly a service organization. It tied together the various services necessary (or at least useful) to the Canadian hobby. These services included the Ombudsman's Office, the Novice Packet & the Orphan Games Project. The president's job was simply to keep these posts occupied & functioning. There was no prestige involved.

Now that I've met you, I suspect your presidential campaign is just a lark & you're hoping to poke some fun at CDO. Well, I certainly support fun & satire but I think CDO is a poor choice. If you run, I won't support you unless you intend to maintain CDO's original standards & ideals, ie that of a service organization.

Later,
Cal White

For those of us that are new to the hobby, Cal is one of those old boys that were around over ten years ago. He is getting back into it as a scribe, editor and all-round-generally-good guy with a black hat. In other words he is publishing again. Specifically the zine, NORTHERN FLAME. Gamefees are \$5.00. Subscriptions are 3/\$2. All cheques are to be made out and sent to Frank Easton, 73 Keele St. #2, Toronto, Ontario M6P 2J8. All submissions and letters of comment are to be sent to Cal White, 63 Oakwood Ave., Toronto, Ontario M6H 2V7 (that is after you send a copy to me for BS). Frank Easton is Cal's whippin' boy and you'll hear from him later in this issue. I'm beginnin' to worry about who's subzine this actually is? If they take over BACKSTRETCH, then I take over the Courtemanches' HIGH INERTIA.

Back to my thoughts about the CDO and it's vacancies in the officer ranks. I don't think that it should remain dormant at a time like this. What with new Canadian zines popping up, and a CON scheduled for this August, I think that the CDO should be more active. So, I think that I will still seek a position within it. Seriously. There are two sides to everything and I think that my 'fun' side is balanced with a professional side. So let's get at it, I don't like wasteing time. Most bs in BS is relegated to "The Manure-pile" except, maybe the press in those, hoped for, games to be run in this zine (subzine).

I'm not to sure that this open letter shouldn't be printed under the "Manure-pile" subsection, but that section is for me exclusively, so here it is, in it's entirety (never again Frank).

Feedbacket: An Open Letter to the readers of Backstretch -

It appears to me that if the 'readers' of Backstretch (is there actually anyone out there who reads this section of HH besides myself?) would all send in mass registrations for all of the games Doug's GMing, then there wouldn't be any room left for his steadily increasing 'Manure-pile'! I'll make my contribution by signing up for a regular game.

I would like to point out that Doug was the first one to send in for a subscription to the 'Northern Flame' to the tune of \$20! Have you noticed Doug, that this brings you up to issue number 30 ... Flash-in-the-Pan ?

And as for Can-Con : Doug and I will be meeting with the official at Glendon College in early January, so I'll let him keep you abreast of how things are going. Since Doug is the financial genius of the three of us, make sure you send him any and all monies. It'll be an event you won't want to miss!

I'd wish you all Season's Greetings, but by the time this is published, we'll be into the 'grip' of winter and you'll all be miserable, but right now I feel great! It's December 18, I'm off work for two weeks, and I've got no marking hanging over my head! Allright!

Have I taken up enough space yet, Doug? It should give your shoulders a rest this ish, it was really flying the last time !

Frank Easton

((I'm embarrassed that you should write that I subbed to your zine. We know that you needed stamps to send out those first free copies and I felt sorry for Cal knowing that he has you onboard!))((Don't ask me why he has you in charge of finance???)

((An update on Frank's reference to CAN-CON 88: Frank and I checked out the facilities that Glendon has to offer and I was quite happy with what I saw. We will be putting together a cost-for-accomodation sheet/questionnaire soon. Watch your mailboxes. Hope to get a response from all of you.))

((And Frank, I've broad shoulders, very used too lettin' it fly. You got to remember that Robert Acheson is my brother and we have another one hidin' out in Toronto, younger but fatter.))

((I'd add more but one page is enough to give anyone, especially one by the name of Frank Easton!))